CCDLA

"Ready in the Defense of Liberty" Founded 1988 Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association P.O. Box 1766 Waterbury, CT 07621-1776 (860) 283-5070 Phone/Fax www.ccdla.com

March 6, 2015

The Honorable Eric D. Coleman
The Honorable William Tong
Chairmen
Joint Committee on Judiciary
Room 2500, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Re: Raised Bill No. 6921 - An Act Concerning Invasions of Privacy

Dear Chairmen and Committee Members:

The Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (CCDLA) is a statewide organization of over 300 licensed lawyers, in both the public and private sectors, dedicated to defending persons accused of criminal offenses. Founded in 1988, the CCDLA works to improve the criminal justice system by ensuring that the individual rights guaranteed by the Connecticut and United States constitutions are applied fairly and equally and that those rights are not diminished.

The CCDLA endorses the testimony of ACLU-CT in opposing Raised Bill No. 6921 – An Act Concerning Invasions of Privacy. As noted by ACLU-CT, in its current form Section 8 of this bill would criminalize the electronic sharing of certain images without the consent of the subject, regardless of whether there was a prior understanding or agreement that such images would remain private. Under this proposal, a person could be charged with "unlawful dissemination of an intimate image" even when no harm has been shown and the image originally was disseminated by the subject. Also, the overly broad definition of the types of photos that would require consent could lead to inappropriate prosecutions,

The CCDLA urges this Committee to adopt the recommendations outlined by ACLU-CT in its written testimony on Raised Bill No. 6921.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa L. Villa President, CCDLA

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